



Weekly Newsletter

Spring Term

Friday, 12th February 2021

Week commencing
Monday

15th February

Half term week.

Monday

22nd February

Return to school/
remote learning.



Chinese New Year, also known as Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, is China's most important festival. It is time for families to be together and a week of an official public holiday.

The Chinese zodiac gives each year an animal sign. **Chinese New Year 2021** falls today, Friday, **February 12, 2021**, beginning a [year of the Ox](#). See page 6 for more.

Our half term holiday begins next week, 15th— 19th February. School will be closed to small school children and there will be no remote learning set, so this is the time to have a complete break.

It has been a challenging half term, with a lot of changes to get to grips with, and even a downfall of snow to disrupt our weekly routines! But everyone - children, parents and staff - has been amazing and coped really well. Thank you for all your support.

We return to learning on Monday, 22nd February—those in small school to come in for 9.00am and those who are remote learning should be ready for the morning registration.

As soon as I have any information about schools being fully open I will, of course, update you.

Next Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday, otherwise known as “Pancake Day”!

Let us know if you make some amazing pancakes— please send pictures for the next newsletter to westrepc@victoriaprimaracademy.org.uk

Enjoy your half term break.

H. Scargill

Hayley Scargill,
Principal



Our children, their
safety, their health
and their education
is very important to
us all, and by
working together
we will get through
this together.

THIS WEEK'S SMALL SCHOOL CERTIFICATES GO TO.

Reception	<p>Tosia Pieczynska for her fantastic story map this week explaining the little brown mouse's journey through the deep dark forest from The Gruffalo!</p> <p>Nikita Kartasov for his super maths work with Miss Gent this week sorting the representations of 9 and 10!</p>
Year 1	<p>Jaiden Dholakia for his brilliant confidence in working with numbers within 50. I was particularly impressed with how he used his knowledge of less than, greater than and equal to to work out his whole number. I was really impressed with Jaiden challenging himself to work with numbers past 50.</p> <p>Vivien Runiewicz-Mika for demonstrating our Victoria value of cooperation! Vivien has been a very active listener and communicator this week. She has impressed me with how much she has participated in group discussions as well as whole class discussions and is becoming very confident when sharing her ideas with the class.</p>
Year 2	<p>Alfie Reynolds for fantastic effort learning his times tables and using this knowledge in related division.</p> <p>Nastia Cieniuch for excellent presentation of all her work.</p>
Year 3	<p>Phoebe Maxwell for amazing poetry.</p> <p>Roza Stankiewicz for taking pride in her work and beautiful handwriting.</p>
Year 4	<p>Ildar Kartasov for his effort in English this week</p> <p>Rares Iamandii for noticing patterns in numbers this week.</p>
Year 5	<p>Kaycee-Mattie Wung and Ariana Edwards both for a well planned and written retelling of the Jabberwocky.</p>
Year 6	<p>Adrian Kartasov and Jakub Tarka for their wonderful sculptures in DT.</p>

THIS WEEK'S REMOTE LEARNING CERTIFICATES GO TO.

Reception	<p>Travis Matisons for his excellent maths this week, finding different ways to make 9 and 10!</p> <p>Ksawery Malaka for his amazing phonics this week, forming and positioning all of the sounds beautifully.</p>
Year 1	<p>Elza Fibiga has been amazing since starting remote schooling. She has shown every single one of our Victoria values, particularly perseverance, patience, cooperation and integrity. She has engaged fully in every activity and always does her best. Elza you make my heart sing!</p> <p>Gabriella McLaren has also been engaging with every activity each day and showing all of her Victoria values but we are particularly proud of the improvement in her handwriting. Can't wait to see this in a book in school.</p>
Year 2	<p>Chayce Moreton for showing passion and commitment to his learning and always trying his best.</p> <p>Elliot Dally for demonstrating a huge amount of enthusiasm and excitement towards his learning.</p>
Year 3	<p>Gracie Cooper for showing enthusiasm and enjoyment in all her remote learning.</p> <p>Jacob Frost for great effort in remote learning English.</p>
Year 4	<p>Jiya Vegad for great participation in online learning.</p> <p>Lucia Puntrello for consistently submitting well presented work.</p>
Year 5	<p>Aydin Haque for asking excellent questions about our next topic.</p> <p>Maja Hirszt for always working really hard, showing perseverance with her remote learning.</p>
Year 6	<p>Dominic Jursa for his perseverance in maths and consistent engagement with the home learning.</p> <p>Ayush Patel for producing work to a high standard and his cheerful contributions on the Teams meeting at the end of the day which demonstrates real resilience during Lock-down.</p>

7. Now, place the mixture into the cupcakes on the tray.
8. Wait 20-40 minutes for the cupcakes to firming.
9. After the cupcakes are ready, take them out of the oven and set by a window to cool down.
10. When the cupcakes are all cool, you are ready to decorate (gently). For better taste, squirt rats over the cupcakes.
11. Fill in the icing bag with rats' faces. Cut a hole at the bottom to squirt out the rat faces on top of the cupcakes. (Do whatever design you want to like...)
12. When finished, slowly place the dead rat next to cupcake, then rip its eyeballs out.
13. Lastly, place the two rats' cups and place on top of the icing. Congratulations, you are now ready to feast on the Marvellous cupcake.

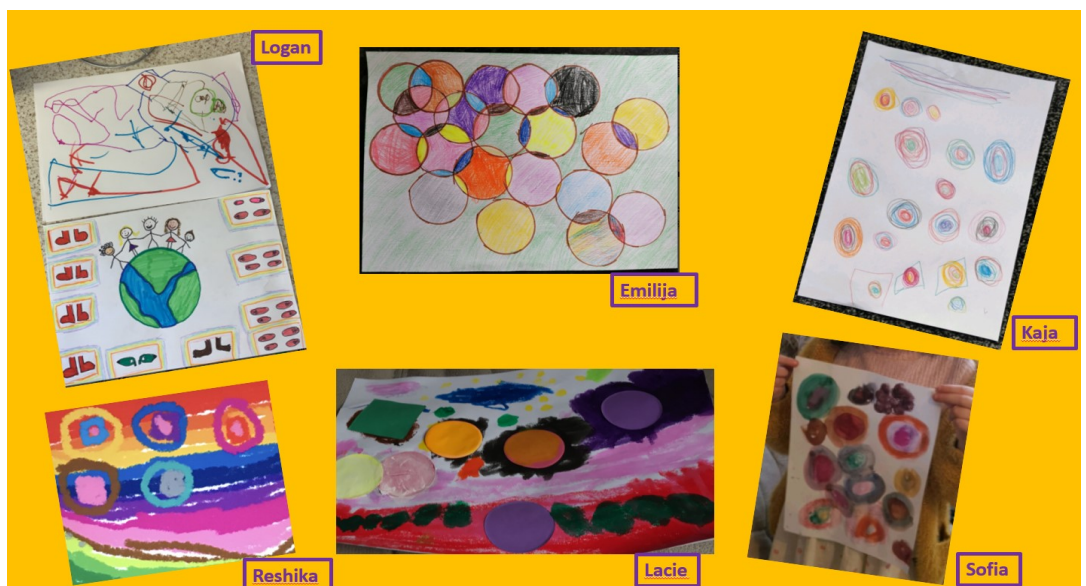
Mrs Wall

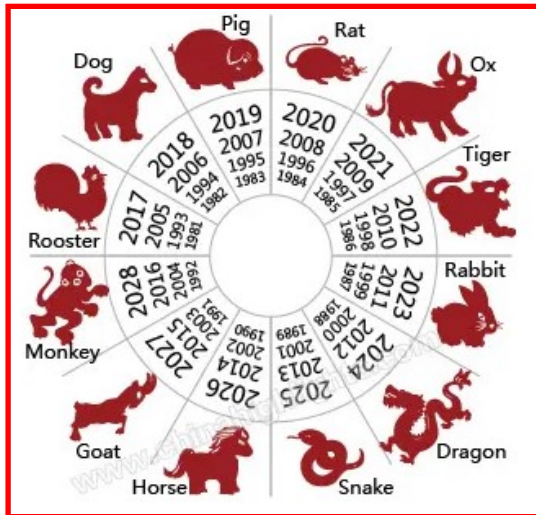


Mrs Walmsley

Reception

This week we had an art activity where we asked the children recreating their Kandinsky piece (Concentric circles) in aid of Tom Moore. I was so impressed with the work produced! They all did amazingly. I have attached slides of the pieces we had in.—Miss Holmes





What Is the Chinese Zodiac?

The **Chinese zodiac** is a **repeating cycle of 12 years**, with each year being represented by an animal and its reputed attributes.

In order, the 12 Chinese horoscope animals are: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig.

1. Chinese New Year Decorations — Lucky Red Items

Every street, building, and house where Spring Festival is celebrated is decorated with red. **Red is the main colour for the festival**, as red is believed to be an auspicious colour.



2. Firecrackers and Fireworks at Chinese New Year

It has long been a Chinese tradition to set off firecrackers from the first minute of their new year. Fireworks have increasingly been added to the cacophony. From public displays in major cities to millions of private celebrations in China's rural areas, setting off firecrackers and fireworks is an indispensable festivity.

3. Chinese New Year's Eve — Family Time

Chinese New Year (Lunar New Year) is a **time for families to be together**. [Chinese New Year's Eve](#) is the most important time. Wherever they are, people are expected to be home to celebrate the festival with their families.

The Chinese New Year's Eve dinner is called '[reunion dinner](#)', and is believed to be **the most important meal of the year**.

4. Chinese New Year Gifts and Red Envelopes

The most common New Year gifts are red envelopes. Red envelopes have money in, and are believed to bring good luck because they are red.





Whole school challenge #1

I have shared a photograph with you on school story of something new happening near me!

It's only a little thing, but it made me smile.

I would like to invite you all to post a photo or a video or a drawing of something that makes you smile over the next two weeks. I will post a portfolio in each of your year groups where you can post your replies and then I can share your photos and messages with the rest of the school.

I look forward sharing all of your smiles,

Best Wishes

Mrs Whiteman

Results of Mrs
Stephenson's bulb
hunt.



	This week's Sporting Champions are.
Reception	Justin Savu for his enthusiasm in cosmic yoga this week! Well Done Justin!
Year 1	Edy Cojocar — we are so impressed by the effort and concentration Edy has put in this week when completing his Northampton Town PE challenges. We are so pleased with the bunny hops! Edy is making sure he keeps his body and mind fit and strong.
Year 2	Mohammad Haidari for his video demonstration showcasing the actions and movement he learnt in PE.
Year 3	Darryl Wung for putting his personality into dance moves.
Year 4	Adam Peach for effort with Joe Wicks PE.
Year 5	Fabian Squires for increased effort with the daily mile.
Year 6	Gabriel Cooper for his judo training with the England Judo team remotely and demonstrating his training routine during lockdown.

This is a great video, fantastic work Mohammad! - Mr Tyson





Gabriel Cooper, Year 6

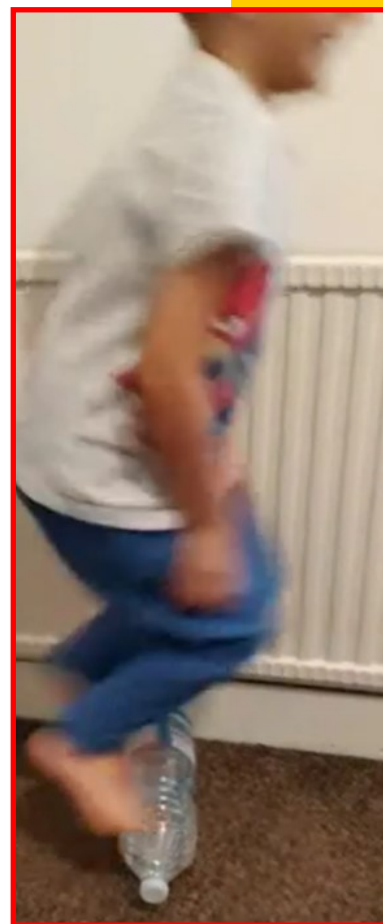
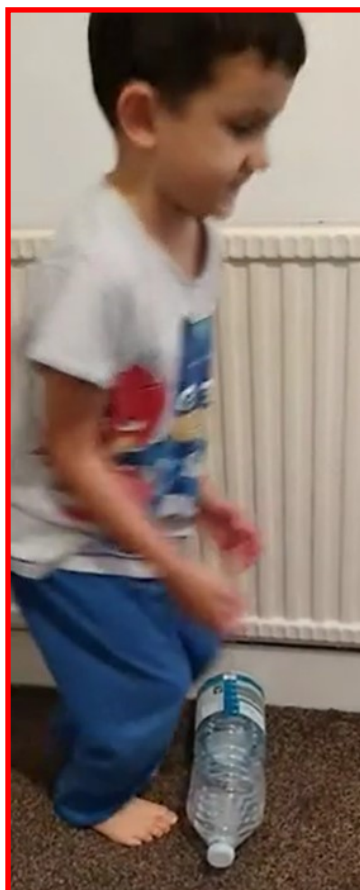
Doing his judo training with the England Judo team remotely and demonstrating his training routine during lockdown.

A great piece of film . You are certainly keeping fit. -

Mrs Stevenson

Wow! Makes me realise that I should be doing more exercise.

Well done Gabriel. - Mrs Wall



Edy Cojocar, Year 1

Edy did some fabulous bunny hops for his PE challenge.

Wow! Fantastic work Edy. I am so impressed! You have tried so hard at this challenge, I think you even beat me!

Mr Tyson



Mental Health and Wellbeing

In a term where we have endured many changes, adopted new ways of learning and adapted to new routines; we have all gone through this experience together. There is no doubt that we have all faced challenges and it has been difficult at times. However, the resilience, unity and support we have all demonstrated means we have an awful lot to celebrate together.

Across the school, we have continued with our daily mindfulness activities. This means each day; children will experience a moment for mindfulness. Paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you – can improve your mental wellbeing.

We explore a range of mindfulness activities which you can also try at home: mindfulness breath, mindfulness movements, mindfulness colouring, mindfulness yoga and many more.



In Key Stage 2, we are underway with our 'team talk' unit in partnership with Northampton Town Community Trust. The purpose of this is to explore our emotions, acknowledge that we all experience different emotion and to teach and equip children with coping mechanisms to manage these emotions to promote positive mental health and wellbeing.



Next term we will be placing an emphasis on **happiness** through looking at the 10 keys for happier living. Each week we will focus on a topic which revolves around promoting happiness and what we can do to help us feel happy.



On Friday 12th February we will participate in Mental Health Awareness day. Both learners in school and at home will participate in a range of activities which will support children's wellbeing. The focus for this year's Mental Health Awareness day is **Expressing Yourself**. Therefore, throughout the day and in the future, we will continue to encourage children to express themselves both through physically and through their emotions.

To find out more information about Mental Health Awareness day or for some advice about how you can support your child's mental health and wellbeing at home, please follow these links:

<https://www.asknormen.co.uk/talk-out-loud/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

Easiest ever pancake recipe



Pancakes shouldn't be hard or time consuming: you only need a few basic ingredients - eggs, flour and milk.

- 1 egg
- 1 cup of self rising flour
- 1 tbsp. sugar/vanilla or a pinch of salt
- 1 cup milk

Method:

1. Whisk flour, milk and egg in a bowl until smooth.
2. Heat butter in a frying pan, pour in the batter and cook on both sides.
3. Add toppings of your choice, such as jam, fruit or just the traditional sugar and lemon juice.

What toppings do you add? How inventive can you be?

Send photographs of your creations to westrepc@victoriaprimaryacademy.org.uk and we'll compare ideas in the next newsletter.